No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-430-6-9-8

WH7130)1

RNA 646
LEAD RICHARDSON

WASHINGTON, FEB 25, REUTER -- MR. ELLIOT RICHARDSON, U.S. AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO BRITAIN, SAID TODAY HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING SECRETARY OF STATE BUT DOES NOT BELIEVE DR. HENRY KISSINGER WILL STEP DOWN SOON.

HE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER BEING SWORN IN AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT THAT HE WAS SURE IF HE WERE ASKED TO BE SECRETARY OF STATE HE WOULD ACCEPT.

BUT HE ADDED ''YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSITION THAT I DON'T DO JOBS IN TERMS OF WHERE THEY MAY LEAD.''

''I ACCEPTED THIS APPOINTMENT (AS AMBASSADOR TO BRITAIN) FOR ITS OWN SAKE AND I HOPE I CAN BE USEFUL IN THIS JOB,'' HE ADDED.

DR. KISSINGER WAS PRESENT AT MR. RICHARDSON'S SWEARING IN AND MAY HAVE HAD SPECULATIVE REPORTS ABOUT THE AMBASSADOR'S FUTURE IN MIND WHEN HE SAID JOKINGLY: ''I CAN HARDLY DESCRIBE THE SENSE OF PANIC WITH WHICH I SAW ON MY SCHEDULE THIS MORNING A NOTICE THAT SAID 'SWEARING IN OF ELLIOT RICHARDSON.'''

HE ADDED AMID LAUGHTER ''YOU NOTICE THE ALACRITY WITH WHICH I ADDRESSED HIM WITH HIS TITLE (OF AMBASSADOR).''

MORE 1846

WH7172)L

RNA 647
LEAD RICHARDSON 2 WASHINGTON

PUBLISHED REPORTS TODAY QUOTED MR. RICHARDSON AS SAYING IN A PRIVATE LUNCHEON MEETING WITH BRITISH CORRESPONDENTS THAT HE BELIEVED THAT THERE WAS A TWO-TO-ONE CHANCE HE WOULD BE NAMED SECRETARY OF STATE IF DR. KISSINGER RESIGNED.

HE SAID THIS HAD BEEN AN INFORMAL CONVERSATION IN WHICH HE AND THE REPORTERS HAD SPECULATED ABOUT THE FUTURE AND WAS NOT BASED ON ANY INFORMATION HE HAD.

''IT WAS NOT BASED ON ANYTHING BUT PURE CONJECTURE,'' ADDED MR. RICHARDSON.

MR. RICHARDSON ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE HAD SPECULATED THAT HIS OWN CHANCES OF BECOMING SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD DR. KISSINGER RESIGN WOULD BE TWO-TO-ONE. BUT, HE ADDED, THE REMARK WAS ''ESSENTIALLY FACETIOUS'' AND HE HAD MEANT THAT THE ODDS WERE TWO-TO-ONE AGAINST HIM.

''I CERTAINLY DON'T SEE ANY INDICATIONS OF DR. KISSINGER'S EARLY DEPARTURE,'' HE SAID.

AT THE SWEARING-IN TODAY, DR KISSINGER SAID PARTNERSHIP WITH BRITAIN HAD BEEN THE CORNERSTONE OF AMERICAN POLICY.

''AS ELLIOTT GOES ... SECOND GRAF RNA 626.

REUTER 1848

PG7183

RNA 648
TEST

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-430-6-9-8

RRRRRRRRRRRRNo Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-430-6-9-8
YYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY
REUTER 1850

JH7186)1

RNA 649
LEAD RICHARDSON
WASHINGTON, FEB 25, REUTER -- MR. ELLIOT RICHARDSON, U.S. AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO BRITAIN, SAID TODAY HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING SECRETARY OF STATE BUT DOES NOT BELIEVE DR. HENRY KISSINGER WILL STEP DOWN SOON.

HE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER BEING SWORN IN AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT THAT HE WAS SURE IF HE WERE ASKED TO BE SECRETARY OF STATE HE WOULD ACCEPT.

BUT HE ADDED ''YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSITION THAT I DON'T DO JOBS IN TERMS OF WHERE THEY MAY LEAD.''

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HE ADDED AMID LAUGHTER ''YOU NOTICE THE ALACRITY WITH WHICH I ADDRESSED HIM WITH HIS TITLE (OF AMBASSADOR).''

MORE 1853

JH7188)L

RNA 650
LEAD RICHARDSON 2 WASHINGTON
PUBLISHED REPORTS TODAY QUOTED MR. RICHARDSON AS SAYING IN A PRIVATE LUNCHEON MEETING WITH BRITISH CORRESPONDENTS THAT HE BELIEVED THAT THERE WAS A TWO-TO-ONE CHANCE HE WOULD BE NAMED SECRETARY OF STATE IF DR. KISSINGER RESIGNED.

HE SAID THIS HAD BEEN AN INFORMAL CONVERSATION IN WHICH HE AND THE REPORTERS HAD SPECULATED ABOUT THE FUTURE AND WAS NOT BASED ON ANY INFORMATION HE HAD.

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AT THE SWEARING-IN TODAY, DR KISSINGER SAID PARTNERSHIP WITH BRITAIN HAD BEEN THE CORNERSTONE OF AMERICAN POLICY.

''AS ELLIOTT GOES ... SECOND GRAF RNA 626.
REUTER 1855

PK7168)1

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-430-6-9-8